

#### THE COSMIC ILLUSION

don of the artist or poet can present  
such an  
organised diversity which is not real;  
but it is an  
imitation, a mimesis of a real and  
already existent  
organised diversity, or it starts from  
such a mimesis  
and even in the richest variation or  
wildest invention  
some mimetic element is observable.  
There is here  
no such thing as the operation  
attributed to *Maya*  
in which there is no mimesis but a pure  
and radically  
original creation of unreal forms and  
movements  
that are non-existent anywhere and  
neither imitate  
nor reflect nor alter and develop  
anything discover-  
able in the Reality. There is nothing in  
the  
operations of Mind illusion that throws  
light upon  
this mystery; it is, as a stupendous  
cosmic Illusion  
of this kind must be, *sui generis*,  
without parallel.  
What we see in the universe is that a  
diversity of  
the identical is everywhere the  
fundamental opera-  
tion of cosmic Nature; but here it  
presents itself,  
not as an illusion, but as a various real  
formation  
out of a one original substance. A  
Reality of  
Oneness manifesting itself in a reality of  
numberless  
forms and powers of its being is what  
we confront  
everywhere. There is no doubt in its  
process a  
mystery, even a magic, but there is  
nothing to show

that it is a magic of the unreal and not a working"  
of a Consciousness and Force of being  
of the omni-  
potent Real, a self-creation operated by  
an eternal  
self-knowledge.

This at once raises the question of  
the nature  
of Mind, the parent of these illusions,  
and its  
relation to the original Existence. Is  
mind the